

Head Quarters, Department of the Columbia,

Portland, Oregon, July 15th, 1868.

GENERAL ORDERS, }

No. 24. }

Pursuant to instructions from Maj. Gen. HALLECK, commanding the Military Division of the Pacific, Brevet Major. Gen. CROOK had a council on the 30th of June, at Camp Harney, with the principal bands of hostile Indians infesting the vicinity of Malheur river, Castle Rock, Owyhee, and Stein's Mountains, under their principal chief, Wee-ah-wee-wa, where it was mutually agreed that they return to their own country, establish their head quarters in the vicinity of Castle Rock, and that while they remain peaceable and do not meddle with citizens or their private property they shall not be molested.

The Commanding Officer of the Department is convinced that this proposal on the part of these Indians is prompted by the severe chastisements they have received during the past two years, during which time they have lost nearly half their number, and that they are convinced by these lessons that a continuation of hostilities would lead to their extermination, hence their desire for peace is sincere and that they will keep it, provided bad white men do not, in their turn, commit outrages upon them, and to ensure a permanent peace, all officers and men in this department will respect the agreement thus made, and use every endeavor to prevent the perpetration of such outrages.

Applications for the private property captured by these Indians and now turned over, should be made to commanding officers of posts or other military officers, who are authorized to turn it over to owners, provided it is clearly identified and proved, as the claiming by private parties of property in the hands of Indians, will only lead to mutual misunderstanding and a renewal of the bloody scenes enacted during the past few years.

Citizens will be advised that their security must depend in a great degree upon the faithful observance, on their part, of the peace thus made, and they are earnestly enjoined in passing through the country occupied by Wee-ah-wee-wa's bands, to do nothing to provoke a renewal of hostilities, and to the end that they may know what has been done and how much depends upon their own conduct, officers will give this order as extended a publication as possible.

BY ORDER OF BVT. MAJ. GEN. GEO. CROOK,

GEO. WILLIAMS,

Brevet Major, U. S. A.,

A. D. C. & A. A. A. G.

OFFICIAL :



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